

REMARKS

This Amendment and Request for Continuing Examination are submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed February 4, 2005, with a shortened statutory response period ending on May 4, 2005. This response is filed within the shortened statutory response period. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account number 02-1818.

Claims 39-50, directed to a non-elected invention, have been canceled in accordance with MPEP § 821.01.

Claims 16-17, 24, 27, 30-32, 34 and 36-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for allegedly as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,656,813 to Baldini et al. (*Baldini*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,396,582 to Koderer (*Koderer*). Claims 18-20, 28-29 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for allegedly being unpatentable over *Baldini* in view of *Koderer* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,129,212 to Duffey et al. (*Duffey*). Claims 21-22 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for allegedly being unpatentable over *Baldini* in view of *Koderer* and *Duffey* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,451,403 to Madsen (*Madsen*). Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for allegedly being unpatentable over *Baldini* in view of *Koderer* and further in view of British Patent No. GB 2142282 to Ogata (*Ogata*). Claims 25-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for allegedly being unpatentable over *Baldini* in view of *Koderer* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,587,793 to Brennan et al. (*Brennan*). Claim 33 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for allegedly being unpatentable over *Baldini* in view of *Koderer* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,934,043 to Aindow et al. (*Aindow*). Applicant respectfully disagrees with and traverses these rejections.

Baldini and *Koderer*, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest a method of forming containers that includes dry cleaning a dry film by directing a gas toward and across the dry film with a gas applicator and carrying impurities away from the dry film with a nozzle juxtaposed the gas applicator as recited in the present claims. *Baldini* discloses a method of forming a film into a flexible bag that includes washing the film with distilled water. *Baldini*, col. 1 lines 41-42, col. 2 lines 41-49, col. 4 lines 3-25. *Baldini* has no disclosure remotely related to 1) a gas applicator or 2) a nozzle next to the gas applicator for carrying impurities away from the dry film.

Kodera discloses a method of sterilizing a package that includes immersing a packaging film in a sterilizing solution. *Kodera*, col. 1 line 66 through col. 2 line 3, col. 2 lines 10-17, col. 3 lines 12-24, col. 7 lines 30-50. Nozzle pair 74 and air knives 82 direct air onto the wetted film after immersion. *Kodera*, col. 9 line 53 through col. 10 line 58, col. 12 lines 22-27, FIG. 5. As *Kodera* discloses directing air onto a wet film, *Kodera* thereby teaches away from directing a gas toward and away from a dry film as recited in the claims. Moreover, *Kodera* has no teaching or suggestion of a nozzle juxtaposed or otherwise next to a gas applicator that carries away impurities from the film. Wholly lacking in *Kodera* is any structure or device near nozzles 74 and/or air knives 82 for carrying away impurities from the film. As *Baldini* is wholly silent regarding a gas applicator and an adjacent nozzle and *Kodera* teaches away from directing a gas toward a dry film and further has no disclosure remotely related to a nozzle juxtaposed the gas applicator for carrying away impurities, no combination of *Baldini* and/or *Kodera* teaches or suggests the subject matter recited in the present claims.

Duffy, *Madsen*, *Ogata*, *Brennan* and *Aindow*, fail to fulfill the deficiencies of *Baldini* and *Kodera*. *Duffy* discloses an apparatus for sterilizing the spout of a container and has no disclosure directed to removing impurities from a dry film. *Duffy*, col. 1 lines 57-64. Similarly, *Madsen* discloses an apparatus for determining the purity of a solution and has no disclosure whatsoever directed to the formation of flexible plastic containers. *Ogata* and *Aindow* have no disclosure whatsoever directed to cleaning a dry film. *Brennan* teaches away from the recited nozzle juxtaposed the gas applicator as *Brennan*'s filter 26 for introducing air is disposed on the opposite side of a clean room away from grill 34 that receives the air. *Brennan*, col. 5 lines 58-63, FIG. 1. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the obviousness rejections be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and requests early indication of same.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

BY



Robert M. Barrett
Reg. No. 30,142
P.O. Box 1135
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135
Phone: (312) 807-4204

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